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the United States. The highest summits of the mountains are, of course, denuded, and much of the interior tableland is bare owing to aridity, otherwise the territory is well supplied with timber of considerable economic value. The prevailing forms and species are too well known to need recapitulation.

The third part is properly ethnographic and historic. A cursory and quite complete list of the various expeditions to the coast of Columbia forms the beginning, the Spaniards, of course, heading the record. The expedition of Juan de Fuca is, perhaps, not so doubtful as the author represents it to be, and as to the statement that the Strait of Anian appears on one map (from 1598), we might suggest the modification that it appears on several and on at least one globe from the sixteenth century.

The very interesting continuations of this historical part cannot be reviewed in detail. Their connection with geography is obvious and their value for an understanding of the development and present condition of the colony very great. The same fairness in judging of conditions far different from those met with in any French colony would be well worthy the imitation of British writers when treating of other countries and other peoples.

A long and detailed chapter on the Indians is very properly divided into two parts, one of which treats of the Indian as far as he has still preserved ancient customs and manners, while the other presents a picture of the changes that have taken place with the aborigines under the influence of growing contact with civilization. The last chapter of part 3 is devoted to "Population and Immigration." It is, of course, replete with statistics, and no pains have been spared to gather abundant and reliable information.

The three remaining parts are strictly devoted to what might be termed economic geography. Fishing, hunting and agriculture head the list, then follow the mines, and, lastly, a glance (and an important one too) at what the author calls "Economic Regions." The contents of these parts again bear testimony to the carefulness and assiduity of the writer. It is an arduous task to get together such a volume of facts and to present them finally in a manner, if not always attractive, at least very seldom tedious.

A. F. B.

**Pflanzengeographie. Von Professor Dr. Ludwig Diels.** 164 pp. and Sketch Map. G. J. Göschen'sche Verlagshandlung, Leipzig, 1908. (Price, 80 pf.)

A condensed description of the distribution of plant life, the natural influences which promote its growth and the forms of vegetation characterizing regions of different natural conditions. The work of a botanical authority and a good example of the treatment, adequate for many purposes, of a scientific topic in short compass, for which the Sammlung Göschen is noted.

**L'Afrique du Nord. Par Henri Lorin.** 418 pp., 27 Engravings, 5 Maps and Index. Armand Colin, Paris, 1903. (Price, 3.50 frs.)

Prof. Lorin has brought together in this volume the information necessary to give most readers an adequate acquaintance with the general and regional geography of Tunis, Algeria and Morocco and with the problems relating to their economic and political development. His book is especially designed for teachers and advanced students, officials and colonists. It is an excellent work, prepared largely on the model of the two series of advanced text-books, "Nouveau Cours de Géographie," produced by the publishing houses of Delagrave and Hachette.

The opening sections treat of the general geography and the peoples of north Africa, with a *résumé* of its history. Studies of the regional geography occupy 170, economic geography, 100, and political geography, 55 pages. Each of the 26 sections is introduced with a bibliography and concludes with a *résumé*. The volume has a good index of geographical names.

**Indien. Das alte Wunderland und seine Bewohner. Geschildert von Hans Gehring.** Part I. vi and 260 pp. and 92 Illustrations from Photographs. Otto Spamer, Leipzig, 1907.

Part II. of this work has not yet reached the Society. The first volume indicates that Mr. Gehring has carried out his purpose quite successfully. His aim was to compress in about 500 large octavo pages so much of India, in all its chief phases of interest, that the work might be an adequate reading and reference book in small compass. No attempt has heretofore been made to produce such a work covering the whole of India.

The author devotes each chapter to one topic or a group of allied topics. In his chapter, for example, on the present population of India he deals concisely with the languages, the caste system and the racial divisions of the people. Twenty pages include all the author has to say on the women of India, their position, education, child marriages, widowhood, etc. In six pages he condenses his remarks on the religious and philosophical literature of India.

The success of the work, of course, depends upon the author's selection of the things that must be said and his suppression of all data that are not essential in giving a broad view of the matters treated. Mr. Gehring seems to have been equal to this severe test. The volume does not read like a handbook. Its topics, under each head, are easily and naturally connected and he makes them interesting. One may read his pages without constantly seeing the marks of rigid condensation. The reason is because the author has limited his treatment to the vital things without especially compressing his statement or description of what these things are. The illustrations are excellent and typical.

**Souvenirs d'Égypte. Par Émile Daullia.** 167 pp. Paris, Augustin Challamel, 1908.

A book with literary flavour and a readable supplement to the guide books which the tourist carries. The author gives impressionist views of the general aspects of Egypt and of the monuments and ruins which distinguish it. Many who make the Nile journey may profit by reading this little volume at the outset, for it will give them points of view which they might easily overlook. The work treats of the great objects of interest from Alexandria to Assuan. It is of the nature of a helpful bit of reading before or during the journey and of a pleasant souvenir of the Egyptian tour.

**Botanische und Landwirtschaftliche Studien auf Java. Von Dr. W. Detmer.** 124 pp. and 2 Photographs. Gustav Fischer in Jena, 1907. (Price, M. 2.50.)

Dr. Detmer has treated the botany of Java with an especial view to the economic importance of its plant life. His book is a thoroughly well arranged study of that part of the vegetation which is utilized in the industries. It deals with the general industrial conditions and describes the soils of Java, the culture of